

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-14, 16-35, 37 and 38 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, 16, 18, 27 and 37 are independent. By this Amendment, the independent claims are amended. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, in paragraphs [0012], [0064] and [0084] of the published U.S. application. No new matter is added.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-14, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Hohensee et al. ("Hohensee"), U.S. Patent No. 6,407,821. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 is directed to an image forming device for receiving a document file that has not been converted into print data and forming images of the document file. The document file contains a plurality of pages and a plurality of unconverted objects for displaying a part or all of the contents of each page of the document and is capable of lining up in the file regardless of the order of the contents displayed in the document. The image forming device includes a receiving unit for successively receiving unconverted constituent data of the document file, a storing unit for successively storing the objects contained in the unconverted constituent data received by the receiving unit, a judging unit for judging whether all objects necessary for displaying a specific page out of a plurality of objects included in a document file are stored in a storing unit, and an image forming unit for forming images of the specific page when it is judged by the judging unit that all objects necessary for displaying the specific page are stored in the storing unit regardless of whether the plurality of objects included in the document file have been stored in the storing unit or not. Independent claims 8 and 16 recite similar features and aspects.

Hohensee discloses a printing system having a filter program 614 that extracts resource data (e.g., "F1") and page body print data (e.g., "P1") from each page of a PDF print object 600 and stores them in a resource data base 628 (see Fig. 6; col. 9, lines 27-60 and col. 10, lines 22-25). The printing system further includes a conversion program that processes the print data to generate new fields of the PDF object resource data (e.g., "FNT 1") (see col. 10, lines 30-34). The new fields are placed as data 812 in a Write Object Container Control 810 (see Fig. 8 and col. 11, lines 22-31). The Write Object Container Control 810 is sent to a printer control unit 814 which controls a printer memory 820 to extract the data "FNT 1" from the control unit (see Fig. 8 and col. 11, lines 31-33). The resource data information retrieved from the memory 820 is combined with PDF page data 824 and sent to a PDF Rasterizing Image Processor ("RIP") 826 which is used to print the PDF object (see Fig. 8 and col. 11, lines 45-49). The rasterized PDF data can then be merged with other print data on the page (see col. 11, lines 51 and 52).

The Office Action asserts that the printer control unit 814 corresponds to the claimed receiving unit and that the memory 820 corresponds to the claimed storage unit. However, the printer control unit 814 ("receiving unit") receives data that has been converted by the conversion program as explained above and shown in Fig. 8. Further, the memory 820 ("storing unit") receives the converted data from the printer control unit 814. Thus, Hohensee fails to disclose the claimed image forming device which includes a receiving unit for successively receiving unconverted constituent data of the document file, and a storing unit for successively storing the objects contained in the unconverted constituent data received by the receiving unit, as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 8 and 16.

As Hohensee fails to disclose that the storing unit receives unconverted print data, Hohensee necessarily fails to close a judging unit for judging whether all objects necessary for displaying a specific page out of a plurality of *unconverted objects included in an unconverted document file* are stored in the memory 820 ("storing unit"). Thus, Hohensee fails to disclose the claimed judging unit.

Therefore, independent claims 1, 8 and 16 are patentable over Hohensee for at least these reasons.

Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12-14 and 17 are patentable over Hohensee at least by virtue of their dependence from patentable independent Claims 1, 8 and 16, respectively. Thus, a detailed discussion of the additional distinguishing features recited in these dependent claims is not set forth at this time. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 4 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Hohensee in view of Abe, JP-A-09-174955. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 4 and 11 are patentable over Hohensee and Abe at least by virtue of their dependence from patentable independent Claims 1 and 8, respectively. Thus, a detailed discussion of the additional distinguishing features recited in these dependent claims is not set forth at this time. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 18, 19, 23-28, 32-35, 37 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Hohensee in view of Abe. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 18 is directed to an image forming device for receiving a document file that has not been converted into print data and forming images of the document file. The document file contains unconverted objects for displaying a part

or all of the contents of each page of the document and is capable of lining up in the file regardless of the order of the contents displayed in the document. The image forming device includes, *inter alia*, a receiving unit for successively receiving constituent data of the document file before the constituent data is converted into print data, and a storing unit for successively storing the objects contained in the constituent data before the constituent data is converted into print data. Independent claims 27 and 37 recite similar features and aspects.

As discussed above, Hohensee discloses that the printer control unit 814 ("receiving unit") receives data that has been converted by the conversion program as shown in Fig. 8, and that the memory 820 ("storing unit") receives the converted data from the printer control unit 814. Thus, Hohensee fails to disclose a receiving unit for successively receiving constituent data of the document file *before the constituent data is converted into print data*, and a storing unit for successively storing the objects contained in the constituent data *before the constituent data is converted into print data*, as recited in independent claim 18 and similarly recited in independent claims 27 and 37.

Abe fails to overcome the deficiencies of Hohensee. Abe discloses that image data that has already been rasterized (i.e., "converted") by an external device 20 is stored in a memory 13 (see, e.g., Abstract and paragraph [0012]).

Therefore, independent claims 18, 27 and 37 are patentable over Hohensee for at least these reasons.

Claims 19, 23-26, 28, 32-35 and 38 are patentable over Hohensee and Abe at least by virtue of their dependence from patentable independent Claims 18, 27 and 37, respectively. Thus, a detailed discussion of the additional distinguishing features

recited in these dependent claims is not set forth at this time. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 20-22 and 29-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Hohensee in view of Abe, and further in view of Brown et al. ("Brown"), U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0216048 A1. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 20-22 and 29-31 are patentable over the applied references at least by virtue of their dependence from patentable independent Claims 18 and 27, respectively. Thus, a detailed discussion of the additional distinguishing features recited in these dependent claims is not set forth at this time. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: MARCH 17, 2009

By: _____


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